

Application Serial No. 10/568,209
Reply to Office Action of April 2, 2008

PATENT
Docket: CU-4693

REMARKS

In the Office Action, dated April 2, 2008, the Examiner states that Claims 52-71 are pending, and Claims 52-71 are rejected. By the present Amendment, Applicant amends the claims.

In the Office Action, the claims are rejected as being anticipated by or obvious in view of the cited prior art references. The Applicant considers that the amendments to the claims overcome these rejections. The previous claims have been cancelled, and new Claims 72-91 are present herewith.

New Claims 72-75 incorporate the features of original Claims 31, 37, 39-41 and 43-47, which features were cancelled from the claims in the preliminary amendment. New Claims 76-91 correspond to previous Claims 52-59, 84, 85 and 86-70.

Independent Claim 72 defines the plant pot as having a lower recess, a pump located in that lower recess, and an elongated body being in fluid communication with the pump and extending through the bottom wall of the plant pot. The combination of these features is not considered to be disclosed by the cited references.

WO 98/56233, which is the Applicant's own prior art reference, shows a liquid transporting elongated body. However, the elongated body is in communication with a main irrigation line running above the plant pots, as shown in Figure 16.

US 2001/0052199 also discloses a liquid transporting elongated body 35 extending through a pot. A pump 33 is disclosed, but the pump is not located in a lower recess of the pot.

US 3,452,475 also discloses a liquid transporting elongated body 22. However, the elongated body is not in fluid communication with a pump, nor is a lower recess provided for such a pump.

AU 61133/86 also discloses a liquid transporting elongated body 8. Again, as with the other cited references, there is no disclosure of a pump provided in a lower recess as claimed in Claim 72.

In view of the above, the Applicant considers that the amendments to the claims overcome the rejections.

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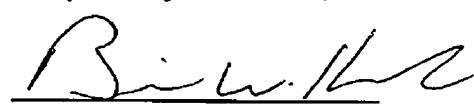
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In light of the foregoing response, all the outstanding objections and rejections are considered overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

October 2, 2008

Date


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